

**POLICY FOR CONSIDERATION OF
FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE REQUESTS FROM THE
COLORADO RIVER WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT**

Adopted October 21, 1997

Revised November 17, 1998, October 20, 1999, October 17, 2000, and October 17, 2001

The Colorado River Water Conservation District (District) will consider requests for financial assistance to water resource projects within the District which are consistent with the District's statutory purposes. Generally these purposes are: the beneficial use of water for agricultural, municipal, industrial, and other purposes; watershed management activities; water quality enhancement projects; and water efficiency enhancement projects. Such requests must be submitted to the District in writing in compliance with the following criteria:

1. Requests for financial assistance will be considered for only those projects which are consistent with the District's statutory mission.
2. The District will determine annually, through its budgeting process, the funding available for assistance.
3. The District Board will normally consider assistance requests at its April meeting each year. All requests for assistance must be submitted in writing to the District by the first business day after February 15th.
4. The District will periodically promulgate guidelines to be utilized to evaluate and prioritize assistance requests. Through those criteria the River District may target projects that address the specific needs of individual basins.
5. Completed projects are eligible for funding only if they were completed within one (1) year preceding the application due date.
6. The local government or water user (Applicant) making a request for assistance must demonstrate the ability to undertake and complete the project.
7. The Applicant and all other interest holders, such as facility owners, must accept all responsibility and liability associated with the proposed project, including but not limited to property interests, water rights, environmental and permit compliance, on-site and off-site project impacts, project construction, project operations, project maintenance and other obligations.
8. Proposed projects must be supported by a complete financial plan which shows capital and operational funding requirements and demonstrates and documents the need for project financial assistance.
9. District project grants will be limited to the following:
 - a. 50% of the first \$10,000 of project cost;
 - b. 20% of the subsequent \$50,000, up to a maximum grant amount of \$15,000.

The District will forward fifty percent (50%) of each grant to the grant recipient (Grantee)

once a grant contract has been signed and all other required documentation has been received. The remaining grant amount will be forwarded once the project has been completed and the District has received a completed "Request for Final Payment" form from the Grantee. The remaining grant amount may be less than fifty percent (50%) of the total grant amount originally approved by the District Board if the documented final cost of the Project is less than the original cost estimate. The total grant amount shall be equal to the amount allowed by the above formula based on the documented final cost of the Project or the amount originally approved by the District Board, whichever is less.

10. Applications for assistance from the District will be reviewed and prioritized solely at the District's discretion. Acceptance for review by the District of an application for financial assistance shall not constitute an obligation on the part of the District to provide such financial assistance. Requests will be evaluated and ranked based on competition for available funding. Incomplete applications may be rejected or result in a lower ranking.
11. In providing assistance, the District may evaluate or assess the technical adequacy of the proposal in order to prioritize project assistance requests. However, such an assessment shall not constitute a warranty or an engineering opinion on the project upon which the Applicant or any third party may rely.
12. Assistance grants will be implemented through a grant contract prepared by the District's Legal Department. The grant contract will include appropriate special conditions, including but not limited to: limitations on the use of grant funds, indemnification of the District by the Applicant, insurance requirements of the Applicant, and repayment requirements of the Applicant required by the District Board for limiting the use of grant funds. Grantees shall have sixty (60) days after the District's mailing of the final grant contract or any amendment to a grant contract to them in which to execute the final grant contract or amendment and deliver the executed original to the District's offices. If such execution and delivery are not accomplished in that time, the Grantee shall be deemed to have rejected the District's offer to contract and that offer shall terminate. If a Grantee fails to execute and deliver an amendment within that time, the River District may terminate the original grant contract and demand full repayment if grant funds already have been distributed. The District's Legal Department may modify the grant contract on a case-by-case basis to accommodate special circumstances, including completed projects, commenced projects, and projects sponsored by public entities subject to the Colorado Governmental Immunity Act. The insurance requirements may be modified with the approval of the General Manager. Once a contract has been signed, the estimated commencement and completion dates may be extended upon written approval by the Legal Department. All other substantive changes to the grant contract must be approved by the Board.